

May 1, 1987

LR 91, 102

adoption.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Any discussion? (Gavel.) Any discussion? Seeing none, all in favor of the adoption of LR 91 please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 91.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LR 91 is adopted. LR 102.

CLERK: Mr. President, 102, by Senator Rod Johnson, found on page 1931 of the Journal, asks that the Legislature support the efforts of the American Soy Bean Association for stricter label regulations requiring the labeling of products showing that saturated fat is being used in the product.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The member from the 34th District, Senator Rod Jhnsn.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, I was asked, by the Nebraska soybean checkoff organization, to bring to you today a resolution recognizing the work that they are doing in a national truth in labeling campaign dealing with oils. I have passed out for review a handout that was given to the Ag Committee that shows the percentage of saturated fat in palm oil and coconut oil, and as you can see they are very high compared to that of the soybean oil which is very low. And one of the concerns that the soybean folks have, not only is that we are importing a great deal of palm and coconut oil into the country, competing with our soybean folks who are losing significant markets and are concerned about this, we are also being sold a bad bill of goods, not only from the economic standpoint, but also from a health standpoint in that many of our foods are being processed or cooked in this type of oil that is very high in saturated fat, and they are very concerned about that. But they are also very concerned about the fact that the import of all of this coconut oil and palm oils is competing directly with our soybean growers. And so they are, as I said, putting together a national campaign to make the public aware of the situation. And it is our hope that you will agree with us, to work with the soybean folks in making sure we are providing a healthy product to the consumers of the country as well as helping the Nebraska and national soybean growers. So I would move the amendment, Mr. President.